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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,759	03/18/2004	Tae-kyun Kim	46055	4697

1609 7590 09/13/2006

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EXAMINER

MRUK, GEOFFREY S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2853

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/802,759	KIM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Geoffrey Mruk	2853	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-36 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Species I in the reply filed on 12 June 2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in the instant application.

Drawings

The drawings received on 18 March 2004 are accepted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miller (US 4,340,897).

With respect to claim 1, Miller discloses a maintenance method (Column 4, lines 50-61) for an inkjet printer (Column 1, line 11) comprising:

- wiping (Fig. 1, element 13) a nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A) of a print head with a wiper (Fig. 1, element 19a),
- blocking the nozzle surface from outside (Fig. 1, element 19; Column 3, lines 59-63), and
- cleaning the print head excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 19b).

With respect to claim 2, Miller discloses the blocking step comprises capping the nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 19; Column 3, lines 59-63).

With respect to claim 3, Miller discloses the step of cleaning the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A) comprises cleaning with an absorption member (Fig. 1, element 19b; Column 4, lines 1-10) adapted to absorb remaining ink.

With respect to claim 4, Miller discloses the absorption member (Fig. 1, element 19b) performs the cleaning operation while moving along (Fig. 1, element 13) the print head excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A).

With respect to claim 5, Miller discloses the step of cleaning the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A) comprises cleaning the print head with a cleaning arm (Fig. 1, element 19b) which is moved along the print head excluding the blocked nozzle surface.

With respect to claim 6, Miller discloses the nozzle surface of the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) is blocked (Fig. 1, element 19) as the wiper (Fig. 1, element 19b) is positioned in line with a side of the print head.

With respect to claim 7, Miller discloses the step of cleaning the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A) comprises cleaning the print head with an absorption member (Fig. 1, element 19b; Column 4, lines 1-10) adapted to absorb remaining ink.

With respect to claim 8, Miller discloses the absorption member (Fig. 1, element 19b; Column 4, lines 1-10) performs the cleaning operation (Fig. 1, element 13) while moving along the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A).

With respect to claim 9, Miller discloses the step of cleaning the print head (Fig. 1, element 11) excluding the blocked nozzle surface (Fig. 1, element 11A) comprises cleaning the print head with a cleaning arm (Fig. 1, element 19b) adapted to move along (Fig. 1, element 13) the print head excluding the blocked nozzle surface.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Geoffrey Mruk whose telephone number is 571 272-2810. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am - 330pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on 571 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

GSM
9/6/2006



STEPHEN MEIER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER